

THE
MONTHLY



QUILL
BULLETIN

Volume 42

Berkeley, California, March 1960

Number 3

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT — 1959

SAN FRANCISCO

Area covered: Palace of Fine Arts; McLaren Park; Land's End and Sutro Heights; Golden Gate Park; Lake Merced; Stern Grove; Pacific Ocean Beach and Seal Rocks; Presidio; San Francisco Bayshore; Small City Parks; Treasure and Yerba Buena Islands; Marin Shoreline; Rodeo Lagoon and Vicinity.

Weather: Temperature 48-56 degrees, overcast but visibility good, wind 5-20 variable.

Observers and leaders:* E. A. Albertson, Leslie Bartow*, Tyra C. Bartow, Dr. Albert Boles*, Mrs. Albert Boles, Sadie Bozant, Myra Browne*, Herold Connon, Betsy Cutler, Charles Durrie, Martha Durrie, Norman Fitzwater, Bud Fry, Erlene Hevel*, Richard Leinbach*, Mary Leinbach, Elizabeth S. Lennon*, Steve Lewis, Roberta J. Long*, Marie Mans*, Mike McBurney, Hans Meinhardt, Natalie Mestechen, Agnes Oczkewecz, Thomas A. Oczkewecz*, Harold G. Peterson*, Gerald Phillips*, *Compiler* Aileen Pierson, Florence Plymell*, Marjory Reu, Arthur Richter, James Rosso, Jessie L. Saunders, Mrs. Otis H. Smith, Otis H. Smith, Bruce Towle*, Patricia Triggs, Ted Troutman, Peter Veitch*, and Frank Zografos*.

Totals: 118 Species; 24,252 Individuals; 40 Observers.

OAKLAND

Area covered: 15 mile diameter circle centered at Estates Drive and Moraga Avenue in Oakland. Circle includes Bayshore from Point Isabell in Richmond to just east of Yerba Buena Island and south to and including the Oakland Airport. It extends inland through the San Pablo Reservoir, Briones Valley, Lafayette and south to about one-half mile north of the Naval Hospital.

Weather: Temperature 23-53 degrees, clear sky, wind 0-15 variable.

Observers and leaders:* Betty Adamson, Harry Adamson*, E. A. Albertson*, Richard Bailey, Fred Barnes, Albert Boles*, Francis Campbell, Bessie Cogswell, Howard Cogswell*, Herold Connon, Paul Covel*, A. Laurence Curl*, H. R. Curl, Betsy Cutler, Henry Dearborn, Lynn Farrar, Norman Fitzwater, Henry Haig, Mary Haig, Juena Kelly*, George Leavitt, Richard Leinbach*, Mary Leinbach, Elizabeth Lennon, Phyllis Lindley*, James Lindford, Mrs. James Lindford, Guy McCaskie, Jack Mann, Marie Mans, Gardner Marshall, Arthur Myer*, Doris Ogden, Nora, Paul*, and Pauline Opler, Harold Peterson*.

SPECIES	SAN FRANCISCO TOTALS	OAKLAND TOTALS	TOMALES BAY TOTALS
Dowitcher (sp?).....	0	388 ‡	0
Western Sandpiper.....	354	7,716	606
Marbled Godwit.....	3	1,250	252
Sanderling.....	604	934	213
American Avocet.....	75 ‡	2,883 *	0
Red Phalarope.....	0	0	10 * †
Northern Phalarope.....	2 †	0	0
Glaucous-winged Gull.....	537	1,374 x	119
Western Gull.....	1,445	509	297
Herring Gull.....	116	113	210
California Gull.....	2,134	936 x	289
Ring-billed Gull.....	254	1,312 x	310
Mew Gull.....	2,682	144	166
Bonaparte's Gull.....	75	216	29
Heermann's Gull.....	0	0	147
Gull (sp?).....	815	25	0
Forester's Tern.....	35	14	9
Common Murre.....	0	0	423 * ‡
Pigeon Guillemot.....	0	0	20
Ancient Murrelet.....	0	0	2
Cassin's Auklet.....	0	0	12 *
Rhinoceros Auklet.....	0	0	81 ‡
Band-tailed Pigeon.....	0	0	23
Mourning Dove.....	151	170	25
Barn Owl.....	0	1	3
Screech Owl.....	0	2	5
Great Horned Owl.....	0	31	34 ‡
Burrowing Owl.....	0	1	1
Spotted Owl.....	0	0	1 †
Short-eared Owl.....	0	8	0
Saw-Whet Owl.....	0	0	4 *
Anna's Hummingbird.....	219	93	5
Allen's Hummingbird.....	2 †	0	0
Belted Kingfisher.....	5	3	23
Red-shafted Flicker.....	75	428 x	159
Acorn Woodpecker.....	0	21	7
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.....	3	13 x	1
Hairy Woodpecker.....	0	3	11
Downy Woodpecker.....	10	6	6
Nuttall's Woodpecker.....	0	13 x	0
Black Phoebe.....	46	9	66
Say's Phoebe.....	3	5	18
Horned Lark.....	0	59	74
Steller's Jay.....	3	112	6
Scrub Jay (California).....	34	223	110
Common Raven.....	10	0	45
Common Crow.....	8	32	227
Chestnut-backed Chickadee.....	56	262 * x	62
Plain Titmouse.....	0	80	0
Common Bushtit.....	27	603	140
White-breasted Nuthatch.....	0	5	1
Red-breasted Nuthatch.....	29 ‡	45 x	8
Pygmy Nuthatch.....	0	0	74
Brown Creeper.....	5	14 x	8
Wrentit.....	24 ‡	198 x	99
House Wren.....	0	0	1 †
Winter Wren.....	12	7	18
Bewick's Wren.....	9	44 x	48
Long-billed Marsh Wren.....	4	1 †	9

SPECIES	SAN FRANCISCO TOTALS	OAKLAND TOTALS	TOMALES BAY TOTALS
Rock Wren.....	0	0	1
Mockingbird.....	3 ‡	18	0
California Thrasher.....	0	7	0
Robin.....	1,829 ‡	17,091	159
Varied Thrush.....	7	24	7 °
Hermit Thrush.....	73	224 x *	54
Western Bluebird.....	16	53	115
Golden-crowned Kinglet.....	0	51 x	13
Ruby-crowned Kinglet.....	29	159 x	151
Water Pipit.....	183	163	2,492 ‡
Cedar Waxwing.....	140	1,019 x ‡	51
Loggerhead Shrike.....	19	18	46
Starling.....	1	150 x ‡ †	1,650
Hutton's Vireo.....	10	15	9
Orange-crowned Warbler.....	3	3 x	3
Myrtle Warbler.....	1	217 x ‡	80
Audubon's Warbler.....	265	123	589
Townsend's Warbler.....	1	12 x	6
Yellowthroat Warbler.....	16	0	2
House Sparrow (English).....	368	326	172
Western Meadowlark.....	260	166	1,087
Redwinged Blackbird.....	100	1,552 x	1,120
Tricolored Blackbird.....	20	3 x †	1
Brewer's Blackbird.....	808	207	5,472
Brown-headed Cowbird.....	0	0	5
Purple Finch.....	3	45 x	11
House Finch.....	408	534	479
Pine Siskin.....	3	167	88
American Goldfinch.....	10	239 x	2
Lesser Goldfinch.....	70	108	8
Red Crossbill.....	0	0	6 †
Green-tailed Towhee.....	0	0	1 †
Rufous-sided Towhee.....	27	137	14
Brown Towhee.....	14	411	74
Savannah Sparrow.....	1	87	167
Lark Sparrow.....	0	15 x	1
Rufous-crowned Sparrow.....	0	3	0
Slate-colored Junco.....	0	0	1 †
Oregon Junco.....	717	1,219	264
White-crowned Sparrow.....	1,275	1,930 x	2,333
Golden-crowned Sparrow.....	206	1,676 x ‡	515
White-throated Sparrow.....	1 †	0	2 †
Fox Sparrow.....	149	152	54
Lincoln's Sparrow.....	0	4	0
Song Sparrow.....	231	157	126

* Highest or tied with highest count of individuals compared with 1958 figures for the entire United States and Canada.

† Species of special interest.

‡ Numbers of special interest.

° Unusually low counts recorded.

x Record count for Oakland area.

JANUARY TRIP TO TOMALES BAY AND TOMALES STATE PARK

About 15 people met at 4 a.m. to go owling. It rained from then until sunrise; and, unfortunately, only two owls—a Saw-whet and a Screech—were heard in the Tomales State Park.

At daybreak we went to the north end of Drake's Estero, where we had very good views of a Peregrine Falcon and a small flock of Whistling Swans. Then at 9 o'clock we met more birders at the Inverness store. Among them was a visitor from Missouri, Bob Quade, who saw 39 life birds during the day. He said it was the most thrilling trip of his life.

From Inverness, we worked our way around to Dillon Beach. Just north of Pt. Reyes Station, we saw our best bird of the day, a Ferruginous Hawk, and a life bird for many of the party. The bird was hunting over the grass-covered hills beside the road, and we were able to see the pale-colored tail, light underparts, rufous color on the top of the wings, and the white patches at the base of the primaries. Near there, too, John Ralph saw a Bald Eagle on a telephone pole. At Dillon Beach we saw a Red-necked Grebe and a Short-eared Owl.

In the late afternoon a few of us went to Mrs. Miller's home in Inverness, where we saw in her garden a Slate-colored Junco and two White-throated Sparrows.

The following 121 species were seen or heard during the day: Common, Artic, and Red-throated Loon; Red-necked, Horned, Western, Eared, and Pied-billed Grebe; White and Brown Pelican; Double-crested, Brandt's, and Pelagic Cormorant; Great Blue Heron; Common and Snowy Egret; Black-crowned Night Heron; Whistling Swan; Black Brant; Mallard; Pintail; Green-winged Teal; American Widgeon; Redhead; Canvasback; Greater and Lesser Scaup; Common Goldeneye; Bufflehead; White-winged, Surf, and Common Scoter; Ruddy Duck; Red-breasted Merganser; Turkey Vulture; White-tailed Kite; Cooper's, Red-tailed, Red-shouldered, and Ferruginous Hawk; Bald Eagle; Marsh Hawk; Peregrine Falcon; Sparrow Hawk; California Quail; Ring-necked Pheasant; Common Gallinule (C. Sather); American Coot; Black Oystercatcher; Snowy Plover, Killdeer; Black-bellied Plover; Surfbird; Black Turnstone; Common Snipe; Willet; Greater Yellowlegs; Least Sandpiper; Dunlin; Western Sandpiper; Marbled Godwit; Sanderling; Glaucous-winged, Western, Herring, California, Ring-billed, Mew, Bonaparte's and Heermann's Gull; Forster's Tern; Band-tailed Pigeon; Screech, Short-eared, and Saw-whet Owl; Anna's Hummingbird; Belted Kingfisher; Red-shafted Flicker; Acorn, Hairy, and Downy Woodpecker; Black and Say's Phoebe; Horned Lark; Steller's and Scrub Jay; Common Raven; Common Crow; Chestnut-backed Chickadee; Bewick's and Long-billed Marsh Wren; Mockingbird; Robin; Hermit Thrush; Ruby-crowned Kinglet; Water Pipit; Cedar Waxwing; Loggerhead Shrike; Starling; Orange-crowned, Myrtle, and Audubon's Warbler; Yellowthroat; House Sparrow; Western Meadowlark; Red-winged and Brewer's Blackbird; House Finch; Pine Siskin; Rufous-sided and Brown Towhee; Savannah Sparrow; Slate-colored and Oregon Junco; White-crowned, Golden-crowned, White-throated, Fox, Lincoln's and Song Sparrow.

R. G. McCASKIE, *Leader and Historian*

CONSERVATION MONTH

California Conservation Week—March 7 to 14—followed by National Wildlife Week—March 20 to 26—would be most appropriate periods for you

to *write* or *wire* your Congressman or Senator in behalf of those conservation measures you believe in. Our legislators are back in session at Washington. The Wilderness Bill S. 1123 and the National Shoreline Recreation areas bills, which would include Pt. Reyes, should receive early consideration. The Sierra Club suggests that we write Senator Thomas Kuchel, Senate Office Bldg. Washington, re: The Wilderness Bill.

Water pollution control is generally admitted to be one of the most acute problems menacing wildlife, fisheries and human health in this land of mushrooming cities and industries. Both houses of Congress and the President's own Advisory Board have overwhelmingly endorsed H. R. 3610 which would increase federal aid to municipalities for sewage plant construction. President Eisenhower indicated he would VETO such action and even recommended reducing the current allotments. In this case your views should be expressed directly to the White House.

Financial commitments by our Division of Beaches and Parks in connection with Squaw Valley development appear to threaten future development plans for many other state beach, park and monuments projects, so why not express your own views on this problem to Governor Brown or Chairman of the Park Commission. If you are still in doubt as to what you can do about conservation write to the California Conservation Council, 911 Santa Barbara Ave., Santa Barbara.

PAUL F. COVEL, *Conservation Chairman*

A few other items along the line of conservation: A new 4-cent water conservation stamp will be the opening feature of the 7th National Watershed Congress which will be held in Washington, D. C. April 18 & 19. The 1960 Wildlife Conservation Stamps are now available through the National Wildlife Federation. A book to be owned by all conservationists is *This is the American Earth*, by Ansel Adams and Nancy Newhall. A new publication that aims to keep the public informed accurately on all subjects dealing with national lands is the *National Wildlands News* with Devereaux Butcher (author of *Seeing America's Wildlife* and *Exploring Our National Parks and Monuments*) as editor. The subscription for this timely news bulletin is \$1.00 per year. Address: National Wildlands News 2607 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, 8, D.C.

SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL NATURE COLOR SLIDE EXHIBITION SCHEDULE

We hope to see several winning slides by our members, so here is a schedule of when and where they will be shown:

March 16, 8 p.m.; March 18, 7:45 p.m. Morrison Auditorium, Golden Gate Park.

March 21, 8 p.m. Chabot School, Chabot Rd. & Patton St. Oakland

March 23, 8 p.m. San Francisco Museum of Art, Van Ness & McAllister Sts. San Francisco.

The Hamilton Naturalist's Club of Ontario is sponsoring an International Exhibition of Nature Photography in April 1960. The deadline for entries is March 25, and the subjects may include anything which "portrays a portion of nature." Winning slides will be shown in Hamilton, Niagara Falls and London. For additional information and entry forms, write: John B. Giles, Exhibition Chairman, Hamilton Naturalist's Club, Main Post Office, Box 384, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. The entry fee is \$1.00.

**GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.
STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS,
AND CASH BALANCES FOR 1959**

CASH RECEIPTS:

Membership Dues — Branch.....	\$1635.31
Membership Dues — Local.....	93.00
Interest Income.....	137.43
Gull Subscription Income.....	80.50
Screen Tours Income.....	2174.50

Total Cash Receipts \$4120.74

CASH DISBURSEMENTS:

Anniversary Dinner.....	\$ 41.00
Bird Count Fees.....	35.00
Camp Scholarships.....	146.50
Donations	269.09
Education Committee.....	25.64
Field Trips.....	15.57
Gull - Printing.....	815.86
Gull mailing.....	431.32
Insurance	25.49
Meeting Expense.....	11.40
Miscellaneous	58.55
Postage	21.54
Screen Tour Expense.....	830.40
Social Committee.....	7.69
Stationary and Supplies.....	44.78
Travel and Conventions.....	200.00
Telephone	26.60
Audubon Field Notes.....	19.51

Total Cash Disbursements \$3025.94

EXCESS OF CASH RECEIVED OVER CASH DISBURSEMENTS..... \$1094.80

CASH AT JANUARY 1, 1959..... 5594.33

BARBECUE SUPPER PROCEEDS RESERVED FOR

CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS..... 262.25

\$6951.38

FOUR SHARES OF P.G.&E. COMMON (At Cash)..... 266.00

CASH BALANCES AT DECEMBER 31, 1959

Commercial Account.....\$2177.72

Savings Account..... 4507.66 6685.38

TOTAL CASH \$6951.38

Golden Gate Audubon Society Sanctuary and Memorial Fund

IN MEMORY OF

Mrs. Ethel Myer

Marie Sterne

GIFT OF

Miss Frances J. Blake

Miss Clelia Paroni

Contributions to this fund, which are tax deductible, should be sent to
Dr. Albert Boles, Sanctuary and Memorial Fund Chairman, 854 Longridge
Road, Oakland 10, California.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following members to the Golden Gate Audubon Society: from Berkeley, Miss Edna P. Harris, Mrs. Freeke V. N. Kohl, Mrs. Marion L. Moseley, Mrs. Gunhilde Osborn, Mrs. M. D. Taylor; from Castro Valley, Mr. John S. Luther and Mr. Ross Wagner; from Concord, Mr. C. J. Boissonou; from Glen Ellen, Miss Marianne R. Shepard; from Oakland, Miss Barbara Ann Jones and Mr. Richard H. Flower; from San Francisco, Mrs. Joan R. Cisinski and Miss Helen S. Davis.

AGNES OCZKEWECZ, *Membership Chairman*

MARCH MEETING

The 505th regular meeting of the Golden Gate Audubon Society will be held on Thursday, March 10, at 7:30 in the Rotary Natural Science Center on Lake Merritt in Oakland, near the duck-feeding area. Mrs. Junea Kelly will speak on "Some Bird Adventures in Australia." Mrs. Kelly and our president, Roberta Long, have recently returned from a three-months' trip to Australia and New Zealand. Note: Mrs. Kelly is the popular conductor of SIX TRIPS AFIELD, a Nature Study course given through the University of California Extension Division.

A no-host dinner preceding the meeting will be held at Conover's Restaurant, Perkins and Grand Ave., just one block from the Science Center. Six o'clock. Everyone welcome.

BONNIE SMITH, *Program Chairman*

FIELD TRIPS FOR MARCH

On Sunday, March 6, to Rodeo Lagoon. Meet at the parking area just north of the Golden Gate Bridge at 9 a.m. This is always a very interesting trip with many species of water birds present on either the ocean or the brackish lagoons behind the sandbar. Early spring migrants and Allen Hummers can be expected. Leader, JERRY PHILLIPS, HE 1-2936

On Sat. & Sun. March 12, 13, to Moss Landing and Monterey, overnight. On Sat. take U.S. 101 So. of San Jose to the Monterey peninsula cutoff (route 156) 9 miles north of Salinas. Turn west to Castroville, then north (right) on Route 1 for 3 miles. Meet at 9:30 a.m. near the bridge over Elkhorn Slough. Distance from Bay Area, 110 miles. Driving time 3 hours. This trip offers beach, ocean, lagoon, pond, marsh and open grassland habitat in one package. After lunch, to the piers in Monterey. Meet at 2:30 p.m. at the S.P. depot. A tour will be made of the wharves where we hope to see cormorants, loons, grebes, gulls and other water birds. Motel reservations can be made in Pacific Grove in the vicinity of the butterfly trees. This will be a good starting point for the Sunday trip to hear and see owls in Carmel Valley. Owlers meet at 4 a.m. at Carmel Mission in Carmel. Others meet in Point Lobos State Park, Bird Rock area at 9 a.m. Bring bag lunches for both days, binoculars, telescopes and interested friends.

Leader, RICHARD STALLCUP, LO 9-3185

On Saturday, March 26, to Tilden Park. Some summer residents may be expected along with transients and wintering species in this "Close to home" area. Orange-crowned and Wilson's Warblers should be seen. Meet at Spruce

St' Reservoir at 9 a.m. From San Francisco, take 8:07 F bus and transfer to No. 67 bus at University Ave. Leader, L. R. LEINBACH, LA 6-7649

On Sunday, April 3, to the Farallon Islands on Privateer II. Departure will be from Berkeley Harbor at 5:30 a.m. with a later pick up of passengers in San Francisco. Complete information as to time, clothing, etc will be sent to all who reserve a space. Fee \$8.50 per person. This should be sent to the Field Trips Chairman, Harold G. Peterson, 3548 65th Ave., Oakland 5, with your name, address and PHONE number. Make all checks payable to the Golden Gate Audubon Society Inc. Names will be placed on the passenger list in the order received. Leader to be announced. Space limited.

TENTATIVE FIELD TRIPS SCHEDULE APRIL — JUNE

Sunday, April 3—Farallon Islands

Sunday, April 10—Bay Farm Island

Sat., & Sun., April 23 & 24—McCoy Ranch.

Sunday, May 1—Jack London Ranch.

Saturday, May 7—San Antonio Valley & Patterson Pass

Sat., & Sun., May 14 & 15 overnight—Flower trip to the Santa Ritas.

Sat., & Sun., May 21 & 22—Yosemite National Park

Sat., Sun., & Mon., May 28, 29, 30 — Tule Lake

Saturday, June 4—Fleishhacker Pool and beach cliffs.

Sat., & Sun., June 11 & 12 (overnight) Downieville

Saturday, June 25—Botanical Gardens, Berkeley.

Early morning "Birding by ear" trips will be announced in later issues of *The Gull*.
HAROLD G. PETERSON, *Field Trips Chairman*

GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

Established January 25, 1917

A Branch of the National Audubon Society since 1948

President.....	Mrs. Roberta J. Long.....	45 Clarendon Avenue, San Francisco 14, LO 4-7767
Vice President.....	Mrs. Beth C. Snyder.....	571 Dwight Place, Berkeley, TH 1-1747
Vice President.....	Mr. Thomas A. Oczkewecz.....	101 Upper Terrace, San Francisco 17, LO 4-2833
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Claims for missing numbers of THE GULL should be sent to the Distribution Chairman. Changes of address should be sent to the Membership Chairman.

Monthly meetings second Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Joint Membership, Local and National, \$6.50 per year, includes AUDUBON MAGAZINE and THE GULL. Subscription to THE GULL separately, \$1.50 per year.

Visit the Pacific Coast Office of the NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY — 2426 Bancroft Way
Berkeley 4, California — TH 8-4042